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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/849,003	05/04/2001	Edward Alton Harbin	064731.0170	8970
7590	08/25/2004		EXAMINER	
Terry J. Stalford, Esq. Baker Botts L.L.P. 2001 Ross Avenue, Suite 600 Dallas, TX 75201-2980			BAYARD, DJENANE M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2141	
DATE MAILED: 08/25/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/849,003	HARBIN, EDWARD ALTON
	Examiner Djenane M Bayard	Art Unit 2141

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 May 2001.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4-10</u> .	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1- 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,457,061 to Bal et al.
 - a. As per claims 1,7 and 13, Bal et al teaches a method for routing an externally generated message in a network, comprising: receiving at an ingress port of a network a message from an external network, the message comprising internet protocol (IP) source and destination addresses and message data (See col. 4, lines 35-49); translating the IP source and destination addresses to internal addresses that are non-forwardable in the external network; and routing the message data in the network based on the internal addresses (See col. 3, lines 50-58)
 - b. As per claim 2, 8 and 14, Bal et al teaches wherein the internal addresses comprise reserved loop back addresses (See col. 5, lines 51-63).

c. As per claim 3, 9, and 15, Bal et al teaches receiving at an egress port of the network a response to the message, the response comprising internal source and destination addresses and response data; translating the internal source and destination addresses to external IP addresses; and transmitting the response data for routing in the external network based on the source and destination IP addresses (See col. 4, lines 25-34).

d. As per claims 4, 10 and 16, Bal et al teaches storing an IP source address of the message (See col. 6, lines 1-5); and using the IP source address in translating an internal address of the response for routing in the external network (See col. 3, lines 54-57).

e. As per claims 5, 11 and 17, Bal et al teaches wherein the message comprises a control message generated by a management station (See col. 10, lines 20-32).

f. As per claims 6, 12 and 18, Bal et al teaches wherein the internal addresses comprise a loop back indicator, a identifier of a node in the network and identifier of an element in the node (See col. 10, lines 20-32).

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Patent No. 6,058, 431 to Srisuresh et al teaches a method and system for network address translation as an external service in the access server of a service provider.

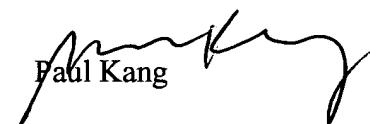
U.S. Patent No. 6,038,226 to Kainuma teaches a communication method and system for objects movable in network.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Djenane M Bayard whose telephone number is (703) 305-6606. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00 AM-4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on (703) 305-4003. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Djenane Bayard
Patent Examiner



Paul Kang
Primary Patent Examiner